

Message Text

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TAGS: MASS, EFIN, PINT, SHUM, TW

SUBJECT: EA/ROC WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. AIRCRAFT SALES (SECRET)

VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WAS AUTHORIZED TO TELL THE GOI THAT THE USG WOULD "LOOK FAVORABLY" UPON ITS REQUEST TO SELL KFIR FIGHTERS TO TAIWAN. THE ISRAELIS LEAKED THE INFORMATION WHICH THE PRESS THEN INTERPRETED AS EVIDENCE THAT THE U.S. WAS TRYING TO GET OUT OF ITS ARMS SALES RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ROC. WE HAVE ADHERED TO THE POSITION THAT NO DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON AIRCRAFT SALES TO TAIWAN AND HAVE EMPHASIZED THAT THE USG HAS NOT MADE ANY DECISION TO HALT ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN. THE ROC MILITARY SPOKESMAN HAS AGAIN PUBLICLY DENIED THAT THE ROC INTENDS

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TO BUY THE KFIR. WE ARE PRESSING HARD TO MOVE THE DECISION MEMORANDUM FORWARD TO THE PRESIDENT.

2. CH'EN CHU RELEASED ON BAIL (CONFIDENTIAL)

ON JULY 6, THE ROC MILITARY DECIDED TO RELEASE POLITICAL ACTIVIST CH'EN CHU ON BAIL ENDING TWO WEEKS OF DETENTION

DURING WHICH SHE DID NOT HAVE ACCESS TO HER FAMILY OR
LAWYER. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THIS IS THE FIRST

TIME THE ROC HAS RELEASED ON BAIL A PERSON SUSPECTED
OF "POLITICAL" CRIMES AND IS A SIGN OF ROC SENSITIVITY
TO OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS. MISS CH'EN'S PROBLEMS
ARE NOT OVER HOWEVER, AS IT APPEARS THE GARRISON COMMAND'S
INVESTIGATION WILL CONTINUE.

3. REVALUATION DECISION STILL PENDING (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE REVALUATION OF TAIWAN'S CURRENCY WHICH APPEARED
IMMINENT BEFORE THE JULY 4TH WEEKEND DID NOT OCCUR.
WHILE ADVOCATES OF CAUTION HAVE TEMPORARILY PREVAILED,
REVALUATION WILL REMAIN UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION
WITHIN THE ROC AS A MEANS FOR COUNTERING INFLATIONARY
PRESSURES IN THE OVERHEATED ROC ECONOMY. ROC ECONOMIC
POLICY MAKERS WILL PROBABLY WANT TO ASSESS THE REACTION
OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MARKETS TO THE BONN ECONOMIC
SUMMIT BEFORE ADDRESSING THE REVALUATION ISSUE AGAIN.
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